

Washington, D.C. - Late last night in Washington, the United States House of Representatives passed the Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement with a vote of 217-215. Congresswoman Linda T. Sánchez (CA-39) made this statement in response to its passage:

“Today is a sad day for America and Central America, as the United States House of Representatives chose to pass the Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement. I am disappointed that several Members of Congress succumbed to the lies, deceit, and backdoor deals from the Bush Administration. Now American workers will have to pay the price, despite repeated calls from both Democrats and Republicans to renegotiate this trade agreement. It is Congress’ responsibility to make trade agreements that protect American jobs, strengthen labor protections and protect the environment. CAFTA offers none of these protections. I am appalled that Congress has just given the green light to corporations to outsource American jobs. I support free trade, but there is nothing “free” about this free trade agreement.”